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Samuel Jordan Kirkwood, by DAN ELBERT CLARKE, State Historical Society of Iowa, Iowa City, 1917. p. xiv, 464.

Kirkwood was the "war governor" of Iowa. As such he holds a place in the estimation of Iowans similar to that held by Morton among Indianians. In fact their careers are similar in many regards. Each was a successful lawyer; each had achieved a high standing in the Democratic party when the position of that party on the slavery question forced him into the Republican party. Each almost at once became the leader of the Republican party in his State as well as its governor; each later went to the United States Senate and Kirkwood, still later, into Garfield's cabinet; each was bitterly opposed during the Civil war by southern sympathizers in his State. Governor Kirkwood was born in Harford county, Maryland, December 20, 1813; spent part of his boyhood in Washington, D. C.; taught school in Pennsylvania, one of his pupils being his cousin, Prof. Daniel Kirkwood, of Indiana University; in early manhood settled on a farm near Mansfield, Ohio; studied law and practiced in Mansfield, serving his State as prosecutor, member of the Constitutional convention, and member of the legislature; and in the spring of 1855 moved to Iowa City where he engaged in farming and milling, serving his State as assemblyman, three terms as governor and two as United States senator. Such in brief is the career of the man. Mr. Clark has written the biography from the papers and letters of Governor Kirkwood, from newspaper sources and from the *Life and Times of Samuel J. Kirkwood*, (1893) by Henry W. Lathrop. The volume is fully noted, is readable and of convenient length.

Western Influences on Political Parties to 1825. An Essay in Historical Interpretation. The Ohio State University Bulletin XXII, No. 3. By HOMER C. HOCKETT, Professor of American History in the Ohio State University, Columbus, 1917, pp. 157, paper.

THE author has endeavored to find a "key to the political history of Monroe's presidency, so long superficially, known as the Era of Good Feeling." In search of this the author has ex-